

3. A Credit Card Payment Form including the amount of \$750.00 is enclosed to cover the Filing Fee.

4. Cancel claims 1-13 before calculating the Filing Fee. A Preliminary Amendment is being filed herewith.

5. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-1417. A duplicate copy of this Request is enclosed for this purpose.

6. Amend the specification by inserting, before the first line:

This is a continuation application of U.S. Serial No. 10/179,214, filed on June 26, 2002, which is a continuation application of U.S. Serial No. 09/969,847, filed October 4, 2001, now U.S. Patent No. 6,465,827, which is a continuation application of U.S. Serial No. 09/689,802, filed October 13, 2000, now U.S. Patent No. 6,441,416, which is a continuation application of U.S. Serial No. 09/665,062, filed September 19, 2000, abandoned, which is a divisional application of U.S. Serial No. 09/012,104, filed January 22, 1998, now U.S. Patent No. 6,147,374. This application is related to application Serial No. 09/969,848, filed October 4, 2001, now U.S. Patent No. 6,525,359.

7. New drawings are enclosed, three (3) sheets, Figs. 1-4.

8. The power of attorney is set forth in the Declaration in the prior application or an associate power of attorney is hereby granted to:

Jeffrey M. Ketchum, Registration No. 31,174
Shrinath Malur, Registration No. 34,663
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There is a change in the correspondence address.

Address all future correspondence to:

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Please associate this application with Customer No. 24956.

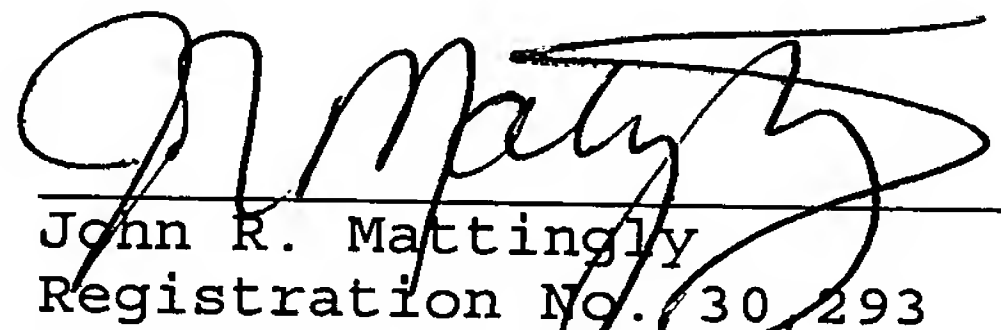
9. The prior application is assigned to Hitachi, Ltd.

10. Priority of the following Japanese patent applications is claimed under 35 U.S.C. § 119:

No. 9-009276, filed January 22, 1997.

The certified priority document has been filed in the parent application Ser. No. 09/012,104.

The undersigned hereby declares that no matter contained in the specification, including the claims, and drawings filed in the present continuation application would have been new matter in the prior application Serial No. 10/179,214, as originally filed on June 26, 2002.



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